

21. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer network system as set forth in claim 20,
wherein the position in the real world for each of the hardware or software is different.

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-10 and 16-21 have been amended. Claims 1-11 and 16-21 are pending and under consideration. It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

EXAMINER INTERVIEW:

A telephonic interview was conducted between the Examiner and the Applicant's representative on March 26, 2003. The Examiner is thanked for his time.

In the interview, it was argued that the cited references do not teach or suggest resource information managing means for managing information relating to resources, including a position in the real world for each of the resources, which are usable through said network circuit. Specifically, we argued that the "items of interest" in the Bouve reference are not connected to the user's computer, but are merely products and services separate from the network.

The Examiner's response was that the term "resources," includes the services of Bouve. Possible claim amendments were discussed, and the Examiner further indicated that amending the claims to more clearly recite that the claimed "resources" are printers would necessitate a new search.

REJECTIONS UNDER OOKI/BOUVE (35 U.S.C. §103):

It is respectfully submitted that these references do not teach or suggest resource information managing means for managing information relating to hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the hardware or software, "which are usable through said network circuit." These features are recited, for example, in claim 1. Instead, Bouve discloses a database including "items of interest," such as products, stores and services. However, these items of interest are not connected to the user's computer and are not hardware or software.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.


CONCLUSION:

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** claims 1-10 and 16-21 as follows:

1. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a first computer has been connected, and a second computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

said first computer comprises resource information managing means for managing information relating to [resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit, and resource information processing means for taking out the content of said resource information managing means in response to a request of information relating to usable [resources] hardware or software from another computer, and transmitting to said network circuit,

said second computer comprises resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the content of the [resource] hardware or software information transmitted by said resource information processing means of said first computer, and

when said second computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource setting means receives the content of the [resource] hardware or software information transmitted by said resource information processing means of said first computer and sets the [resource] hardware or software.

2. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a first computer has been connected, and a second computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

said first computer comprises resource information managing means for managing information relating to [resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit, resource information processing means for taking out the content of said resource information managing means in response to a request of information relating to usable [resources] hardware or software from another computer, and transmitting to said network circuit, and resource installation position managing means for managing the position at which the [resource] hardware or software managed by said resource information managing means exists,

said second computer comprises position noticing means for noticing the position information indicating the position to said first computer when connected to one of said connecting means, resource selecting means for selecting an arbitrary [resource] hardware or software out of [plural resources] a plurality of the hardware or software, and resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the content of the [resource] hardware or software information selected by said resource selecting means, and

when said second computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means,

said resource installation position managing means of said first computer reads out the [resource] hardware or software information corresponding to the position information noticed by said position noticing means from said resource information managing means, and transmits to said second computer, and

said resource setting means of said second computer sets the [resource] hardware or software selected by said resource selecting means in the [resource] hardware or software information received from said first computer.

3. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a first computer has been connected, and a second computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

said first computer comprises resource information managing means for managing information relating to [resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit, and resource information processing means for taking out the content of said resource information managing means in response to a request of information relating to usable [resources] hardware or software from another computer, and transmitting to said network circuit,

said second computer comprises resource information holding means for holding the [resource] hardware or software information relating to the [resources] hardware or software that can be managed directly, and comparing means for comparing the content of said resource information holding means and the content of said resource information managing means of said first computer, and detecting a replaceable [resource] hardware or software, and

when said second computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means as being disconnected from the [resource] hardware or software that can be managed directly, said comparing means compares the content of said resource information managing means transmitted from said resource information processing means and the content of said resource information holding means, and resource setting means sets a replaceable [resource] hardware or software.

4. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein said computer comprises resource information managing means for managing plural sets of information relating to [the resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit corresponding to said connecting means, position selecting means for selecting one of the information relating to plural sets of [resources] hardware or software managed by said resource information managing means, and resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the information relating to the [resource] hardware or software corresponding to the position selected by said position selecting means, and when said computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource setting means obtains the [resource] hardware or software information corresponding to the position selected by said position selecting means from said resource information managing means, and sets the [resource] hardware or software.

5. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a first computer has been connected, and a second computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein said first computer comprises resource information managing means for managing plural sets of information relating to [resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit corresponding to plural positions,

said second computer comprises resource information managing means for managing plural sets of information relating to the [resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit corresponding to said connecting means, position selecting means for selecting one of the information relating to plural sets of [resources] hardware or software managed by said resource information managing means, resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the information relating to the [resource] hardware or software corresponding to the position selected by said position selecting means, and comparing means for comparing the updated time of the content of the own [resource] hardware or software information managing means and the updated time of the content of said resource information managing means of said first computer, and

when said second computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource setting means obtains the content of said resource information managing means of said first computer, and registers in said resource information managing means in the case where the comparing result by said comparing means shows that the updated time of the content of the own resource information managing means is before the updated time of the content of said resource information managing means of said first computer.

6. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

said computer comprises resource information managing means for managing plural sets of information relating to [the resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit corresponding to said connecting means, position selecting means for selecting one of the information relating to plural sets of [resources] hardware or software managed by said resource information managing means, resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the information relating to the [resource] hardware or software corresponding to the position selected by said position selecting means, updated resource information transmitting means for transmitting updated [resource] hardware or software information to all computers connected to said network circuit when content of said resource information managing means is updated, and resource information updating means for updating the content of said resource information managing means when receiving the updated [resource] hardware or software information, and

when said computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource information updating means updates the content of said resource information managing means in the case where said resource information updating means receives the updated [resource] hardware or software information from said updated resource information transmitting means of other computer.

7. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which plural first computers have been connected, and a second computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

each of said first computers comprises resource information managing means for managing information relating to [a resource] hardware or software installed at a specific position in the real world usable through said network circuit, and resource information processing means for taking out the content of said resource information processing means in response to a request of information relating to usable [resources] hardware or software from another computer, and transmitting to said network circuit,

said second computer comprises position information managing means for managing information relating to the positions of the [resources] hardware or software, the information including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software managed by each of said plural first computers, position selecting means for selecting one of the information relating to the positions managed by said position information managing means, resource information obtaining means for obtaining the information relating to the [resource] hardware or software corresponding to the position selected by said position selecting means from said managing first computer [managing it], and resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the content of the [resource] hardware or software information obtained by said resource information obtaining means, and

when said second computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource information obtaining means obtains the [resource] hardware or software information corresponding to the position selected by said position selecting means from the information managed by said position information managing means, and said resource setting means sets the [resource] hardware or software.

8. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

said computer comprises resource information obtaining means, when another computer is connected to said connecting means of said network circuit, for obtaining information relating to [the usable resources] hardware or software through said network circuit from said other computer, said information including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, and resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the information relating to the [resource] hardware or software obtained by said resource information obtaining means, and

when said computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource setting means sets the [resource] hardware or software according to the [resource] hardware or software information obtained by said resource information obtaining means from other computer connected to said connecting means of said network circuit.

9. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein each of said plural connecting means has position managing means for storing the position information indicating each installation position in the real world,

said computer comprises resource information managing means for managing plural sets of information relating to [the resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit corresponding to said connecting means, position selecting means for selecting one of the information relating to plural sets of [resources] hardware or software managed by said resource information managing means corresponding to the position information stored in said position managing means of said connecting means, and resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the information relating to the [resource] hardware or software corresponding to the position selected by said position selecting means, and

when said computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource setting means sets the [resource] hardware or software according to the [resource] hardware or software information registered in said resource information managing means corresponding to the position information stored in said position information managing means of the connecting means to which said computer is connected.

10. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

said connecting means comprises resource information managing means for managing the information relating to [the resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit near each installation position, resource information noticing means for noticing the content of said resource information managing means when the computer system is connected, and updated resource information registering means for updating and registering the content of said resource information managing means by receiving updated [resource] hardware or software information from said computer,

said computer comprises resource information receiving means for receiving the [resource] hardware or software information managed by said resource information managing means noticed by said resource information noticing means, resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the [resource] hardware or software information received by said resource information receiving means, and updated resource information noticing means for noticing the updated [resource] hardware or software information to said connecting means in order to update the content of said resource information managing means of said connecting means, and

when said computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource information receiving means receives the [resource] hardware or software information managed by said resource information managing means noticed from said resource information noticing means, and said resource setting means sets the [resource] hardware or software according to the [resource] hardware or software information received by said resource information receiving means.

16. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A portable computer used by being connected to a computer network to which a server computer is connected, comprising:

a resource information inquiring unit for inquiring the information relating to [the resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world of each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable in said network, to said server computer of the network to which it is connected itself,

a resource information obtaining unit for obtaining resource information noticed from said server computer in response to the inquiry from said resource information inquiring unit, and a resource setting unit for setting at least one [resource] of the hardware or software required in said network according to the information relating to the [resource] hardware or software obtained by said resource information obtaining unit, wherein said resource setting unit, when connected to a certain network, sets the [resource] hardware or software according to the resource information intrinsic to the network obtained by said resource information obtaining unit.

17. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A system comprising:

a computer; and

first and second connecting units to connect and disconnect said computer, the first and second connecting units comprising a resource information managing unit to manage [resource] hardware or software information relating to a plurality of [resources] hardware or software which is usable through said system, and

said computer comprises a resource setting unit to set the [resources] hardware or software according to the resource information, including position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software.

18. (ONCE AMENDED) The system as set forth in claim 17, wherein said computer further comprises a resource information receiving unit to receive the [resource] hardware or software information from the resource information managing unit.

19. (ONCE AMENDED) The system as set forth in claim 18, wherein said resource information receiving unit receives the [resource] hardware or software information directly from the resource information managing unit.

20. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer network system in which plural connecting means connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which said computer is connected to one of said connecting means, wherein

said connecting means comprises resource information managing means for managing the information relating to the [resources] hardware or software, including a position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software, which are usable through said network circuit near each installation position, resource information noticing means for noticing the content of said resource information managing means when the computer system is connected, and updated resource information registering means for updating and registering the content of said resource information managing means by receiving updated [resource] hardware or software information from said computer,

said computer comprises resource information receiving means for receiving the [resource] hardware or software information managed by said resource information managing means noticed by said resource information noticing means, resource setting means for setting the [resource] hardware or software according to the [resource] hardware or software information received by said resource information receiving means, and updated resource information noticing means for noticing the updated [resource] hardware or software information to said connecting means in order to update the content of said resource information managing means of said connecting means, and

when said computer is connected to said network circuit through any one of said plural connecting means, said resource information receiving means receives the [resource] hardware or software information managed by said resource information managing means noticed from said resource information noticing means, and said resource setting means sets the [resource] hardware or software according to the [resource] hardware or software information received by said resource information receiving means.

21. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer network system as set forth in claim 20, wherein the position in the real world for each of the [resources] hardware or software is different.